

Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-14 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /129 W

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P 161030Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2703

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 9450

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAG: PINS, PINT, IN

SUBJECT: KASHMIR FEWER CLASHES IN SRINAGAR

BEG ARRIVES IN DELHI

REF: NEW DELHI 9356

1. CLASHES BETWEEN SUPPORTERS OF SHEIKH ABDULLAH AND OF MIRWAIZ FAROOQ (REFTTEL) CONTINUED IN SRINAGAR JULY 14 AND 15 BUT AT A LOWER LEVEL, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. SECTION 144, BANNING PROCESSIONS AND MEETINGS, WAS IMPOSED ON TWO POLICE PRECINCTS IN CENTRAL SRINAGAR JULY 14. BY JULY 15, THE FRICTION BETWEEN THE RIVAL GROUPS OVER SHEIKH ABDULLAH'S TALKS WITH THE GOI HAD WOUND DOWN TO WHAT ONE JOURNALIST TERMED "ISOLATED INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE AND ATTACKS ON BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS." THERE WAS EITHER A MINOR CLASH OR A NEAR CLASH IN A TOWN 40 KM SOUTH OF SRINAGAR. INTENSIVE POLICE PATROLLING REPORTEDLY CONTINUED IN THE DISTURBANCE AREAS.

2. MIRZA AFZAL BEG, PRESIDENT OF THE PLEBISCITE FRONT AND
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DEPUTY TO SHEIKH ABDULLAH, TOLD THE PRESS IN NEW DELHI JULY 15

THAT HIS TALKS WITH MRS. GANDHI'S REPRESENTATIVE, G. PARTHASARATHY REPEAT PARTHASARATHY, WERE NEARING "AN IMPORTANT AND CRUCIAL STAGE." HE ASKED THAT SHEIKH ABDULLAH'S DEMAND FOR A RETURN TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION OF 1953 BE ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE, AFTER WHICH THE QUESTION OF EXTENDING INDIVIDUAL LAWS TO THE STATE COULD BE CONSIDERED. HE REITERATED THAT PAKISTAN'S VIEWS SHOULD BE ASCERTAINED BEFORE A FINAL SETTLEMENT, ADDING CRYPTICALLY THAT SHEIKH ABDULLAH WOULD FIND A WAY TO DO SO.

3. BEG'S NEGOTIATIONS WITH PARTHASARATHY RESUME TODAY, JULY 16. BEG TOLD A NEWSMAN IN SRINAGAR JULY 13 THAT HE WOULD STAY IN DELHI FOR 10 DAYS. THERE ARE APPARENTLY RUMORS IN SRINAGAR THAT, DEPENDING ON HOW THE TALKS GO, SHEIKH ABDULLAH MIGHT VISIT DELHI TOWARD THE END OF THE MONTH. BEG, IN DELHI JULY 15, HOWEVER, SAID HE COULD NOT INDICATE HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE TO REACH A SETTLEMENT BECAUSE "IT ALL DEPENDS ON A NUMBER OF FACTORS."

SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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